

## **NEWS**

## From County Supervisor Paul Biane

www.sbcounty.gov/Biane

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## **San Sevaine Channel Improvements Approved**

SAN BERNARDINO - The Board of Supervisors on Tuesday approved a \$16-million project that will provide more water for local groundwater recharge while also filling a link in a large-scale flood-control project between the San Bernardino National Forest and the Riverside County line.

The project approved by the Board entails the construction of a concrete channel along the San Sevaine Creek from Slover Avenue to the Jurupa Basin in Fontana.

In addition to the main channel, a diversion channel will be constructed to direct heavy water flows to the Jurupa Basin. The Inland Empire Utilities Agency (IEUA), which contributed \$238,095 to the project, will pump water from the basin into another basin to recharge groundwater. The water has to be transferred to a second basin because a layer of clay in the Jurupa Basin makes it difficult for water to percolate into the ground there.

"I'm glad we were able to make this a mutually beneficial project by working with the IEUA," Second District Supervisor Paul Biane said. "Water is a precious resource, and we have to capture every drop we can,"

The channel construction approved by the Board is part of the comprehensive San Sevaine/Etwianada Creek Flood Control Project that, once completed, will provide 100-year flood protection. The entire project is expected to cost about \$150 million. San Sevaine Creek begins in the San Bernardino National Forest and flows through Rancho Cucamonga and Fontana. Flooding along the creek has prompted numerous road closures in the past. Flooding also damaged public roads and private property. Three segments of the San Sevaine/Etiwanda Creek Flood Control Project remain to be completed.

"This important flood control project is long overdue, and we are making progress, piece by piece," Biane said.

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